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**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Serial Number: 10/724,371  
Appn. Filed: 11/29/2003  
Applicant(s): ALLAN P BAKKE  
Appn. Title: Disposable outlet patient flow line employing active warming and passive insulation to provide normothermic fluid at very low flow rates for in-line blood warmers  
Examiner: Prasad, Sonal  
Group Art Unit: 3767

Mailed: 17 May 2006

At: Rochester, MN

**SPECIAL RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Letter mailed 30 March 2006, please consider the following special request.

This request relates to the two Office Actions on this application mailed 15 November 2005 and 30 March 2006, and to applicant's telephone conversation with Examiner Kevin Sirmons on 15 May 2006.

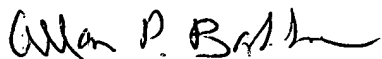
Applicant's initial impression of the first O.A. was that it was either carelessly or incompetently done, and that a call to the examiner and/or her supervisor would be justified. Instead, applicant attempted to address tactfully each reason for the examiner's rejections and hope a rational consideration of those arguments would result in a notice of allowability. Instead, a nearly verbatim copy of the first office action

followed in the second O.A., acknowledging none of my arguments. This O.A. claimed to be responsive to the original application of 29 November 2003 (not applicant's Amendment A received by USPTO 20 December 2005).

The above events led applicant to call the Examiner, Ms. Sonal Prasad. To applicant's relief, Ms. Prasad was no longer with the Office, and the call was referred to Mr. Sirmons, who informed me that the Examination thus far would be reviewed, and would be assigned to a new Examiner.

Thus this response is not in the proper form of a new amendment, but rather a request that the promised re-examination be done. As applicant is 66 years of age and this examination has been granted "special" status, early reconsideration of this application will be greatly appreciated.

Very respectfully,



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Appn. Number 10/724,371 (Bakke) GAU 3767 Special Response cont'd 3

### Certificate of Mailing

I certify that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with proper postage affixed in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on the date below.

Date: 17 May 2006

Applicant: Allan P. Bakke

Allan P. Bakke